
Peter G. Wilhelm



Director Naval Center for Space Technology Naval Research Lab

Mr. Wilhelm is the Director, Naval Center for Space Technology (NCST). He is responsible for the technical and managerial leadership in execution of NCST's mission which is to preserve and enhance a strong space technology base and provide expert assistance in the development and acquisition of space systems which support naval missions.

Mr. Wilhelm entered the Senior Executive Service in July 1989. He has a total of 48 years of civilian service.

Mr. Wilhelm has been the head of the space program at NRL since 1965. The program has grown from a Branch to a Division and now to a Center. The duties are as described above.

Mr. Wilhelm has a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Purdue University.

He has the following honors and awards: Pioneer of National Reconnaissance, 2000; Presidential Distinguished Rank Award, 1999; AIAA Goddard Astronautics Award, 1999; The Secretary of the Navy Career Service Award, 1999; DoD Distinguished Civilian Service Award, 1998; NRL Lifetime Achievement Award, 1998; National Academy of Engineering, 1997; NRL's Roger L. Easton Award for Engineering, 1997; SES Performance Award, 1994; Rotary National "Award for Space Achievement"

Foundations Stellar Award for Program Management, 1993; Robert J. Collier Award (Team Award), 1992; Elected a Fellow of AIAA, 1989; Presidential Rank Award - Meritorious Executive, 1988; CAPT Robert Dexter Conrad Medal (Navy's highest Award for Scientific Achievement), 1987; E.O. Hulburt Award (NRL's highest award for Science - first and only engineer to win this award), 1983; Navy's Space Systems Program Achievement Award, 1985; IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Group "Man-of-the-Year Award, 1981; Federal SES Performance Awards, 1983, 1984, 1985, and 1986; Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation for Development, Acquisition and Operation of Space Systems, 1977 to 1981; Elected Fellow of Washington Academy of Science, 1971; Navy Award of Merit and Special Achievement, 1976; Navy Unit Commendation for Exceptional Meritorious Service, 1974 to 1976; Navy Distinguished Civilian Service Award, 1971; and Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award, 1962.

Mr. Wilhelm's other achievements include: Lecture on NRL's Space Program at U.S. Space Foundation's annual Conference - Plenary Session, 1996; Lecture on Hybrid Assisted Reusable Launch VEHICLE (HARVE) design @ Joint Conference on Reducing Cost of Space Systems, 1995; Chairman, of NASA's Origins External Review Board (OERB), 1996 and 1997; Served on NRC Study on Reusable Launch Vehicle, 1995; Chairman of American Astronautical Societies (AAS) Guidance and Control Conference, 1995; Served on Congressionally mandated "Launch Mobilization Study" - determined U.S. policy on launch issues, 1994; and he is a Member of the Mars Observer Failure Review Board, 1993.

Mr. Wilhelm is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, a Fellow for the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) and the Washington Academy of Science.